

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE TWENTY SIXTH MEETING OF THE  
NORTHERN IRELAND AUTHORITY FOR ENERGY REGULATION  
(NIAER/the AUTHORITY) HELD ON THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2005 IN  
QUEEN'S HOUSE**

IN ATTENDANCE:

**Authority:**

Mr. Douglas McIlldoon - Chairman  
Mr. Peter Lehmann  
Prof. John Fitz Gerald  
Mr. John Gilliland  
Mrs. Joan Whiteside

**Ofreg:**

Mr. Dermot MacCann  
Mr. Alan Smith - Items 6,7 & 8  
Mr. James Hutchinson- Items 6,7 & 8  
Mr. Seamus O'Hare - Items 6,7 & 8  
Miss Fiona Gallen

Also in attendance (either for all or only that part of the meeting as noted) were representatives from –

• Northern Ireland Electricity plc	– Agenda Item 3 only
• System Operator Northern Ireland (SONI)	- Agenda Item 5 only

**1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting were formally agreed.

**2 MATTERS ARISING**

**Fire Report – Brookmount Buildings**

A copy of a fire report on OFREG's former premises was copied to the Authority. The meeting was told that despite significant damage to the offices at Brookmount

Buildings, the IT contingency plans had performed well and it was hoped that normal service would be resumed at the end of the week.

### 3 NIE PRESENTATION ON DOMESTIC MARKET OPENING 2007

Employees from NIE joined the meeting at this point and gave a presentation on Domestic Market Opening 2007 which proposed that an “interim” solution was the only achievable way to take this project forward. The Authority agreed that they needed to consider further all the associated issues before a final decision could be made.

### **Proposal to Launch new ToD Tariff**

Following a brief additional presentation on the introduction of the new time of day tariff, it was noted that NIE planned to launch “Power Shift” on 1 December.

### **FEMO Project 2005**

The meeting was told that the 2005 FEMO project had been delayed. It was agreed that the Authority would defer making any decision on the recovery of the additional project costs incurred until the project was completed.

### 4 T & D PRICE CONTROL

A paper on the outstanding Price Control issues was distributed to the attendees. The Authority was told that NIE had agreed to provide an annual return to OFREG on taxation.

### 5 PRESENTATION ON GRID CODE ISSUES – CCGT COOLKEERAGH

Employees from SONI joined the meeting and gave a presentation on the CCGT issues at Coolkeeragh. After a discussion it was agreed that SONI would prepare a comprehensive report detailing all the issues and options available and including recommendations for improvements.

### 6 PHOENIX – KELLEN UPDATE

A position paper had been circulated to the Authority in advance of today’s meeting. The Chairman reported that the sale of Phoenix to Kellen was completed on 28 October.

### 7 NIEH CONSULTATION ON MOYLE/SNIP MERGER

It was noted that the training day for new members was scheduled for February.

### 8 GENERATION SECURITY PAPER

A draft note to DETI on security of supply issues had been copied to the Authority.

#### 9 ENERGY EFFICIENCY LEVY

A progress paper on the Energy Efficiency Levy programme was circulated to the attendees.

#### 10 ELECTRICITY PRICE COMPARISON – UK & ROI TARIFFS

The Authority was forwarded a monthly paper comparing GB and ROI tariffs.

#### 11 ALL ISLAND PROJECT – PROGRESS REPORT

OFREG told the meeting that work on the All Island Project was continuing and progress was being made.

#### 12 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PENALTIES

The Authority approved the statement of penalties.

#### 13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### **Audit Committee Business**

The Authority was informed that it and its supporting Office (OFREG) had received a clean bill of health from NIAO.

#### **Queen's House – Roof Panels**

It was noted that an application would be prepared for funding under the appropriate support mechanism for the fitting of PV panels on the roof of Queen's House.

#### **DCMNR Presentation**

OFREG informed the Authority that staff would give a short presentation to a Dáil committee meeting on 16 November.

#### 14 ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting would take place in Queen's House on 8 December.

**NIAER**

**November 2005**